

Message Text

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44

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 DODE-00 EB-07 NRC-05 NSAE-00

USIA-06 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 PM-04 INR-07

ACDA-07 /052 W

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R 301445Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4383

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI SF

SUBJ: ARMS EMBARGO: SALE OF TELEDYNE ENGINES
TO SOUTH AFRICA

REF: A) PRETORIA1917, B) STATE 96836

1. EMBOFFS, ALONG WITH MR. J.P. COETZEE, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ISCOR, MR. H.G.H. HUTTEN, DIVISIONAL GENERAL MANAGER FOR ISCOR, ENGINEERS FROM DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND OTHERS, ATTENDED DEMONSTRATION OF FIRST PROTOTYPE VEHICLE AT METPRO WORK SHOP AREA ON 29 APRIL. PROTOTYPE VEHICLE PERFORMED VERY WELL AND ALL PRESENT WERE IMPRESSED WITH IT. DR. BARNARD, DESIGNER OF VEHICLE, IS NOW TALKING OF IMPORTING 1500 HORSEPOWER VERSION FOR NEW LOCOMOTIVE HE CURRENTLY DESIGNING.

2. WORK ON REMAINING TWO PROTOTYPE VEHICLES HAS NOT YET BEGUN PENDING EVALUATION OF FIRST. WILL PROBABLY BE ABOUT FOUR WEEKS BEFORE NEXT PROTOTYPE COMPLETED. METPRO HAS ALREADY RECEIVED DEMONSTRATION CONTRACT FROM BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND THEY VERY SERIOUS TO COMPLETE REMAINING PROTOTYPES.

3. MR. OSSIP, DIRECTOR OF GENERAL COMPONENTS, ADVISED THAT VETSAK NOW PLANNING TO START UP PRODUCTION LINE IN ABOUT
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THREE TO FOUR WEEKS IN ORANGE FREE STATE. AS SOON AS PRO-

DUCTION LINE STARTED, EMBOFF WILL BE FLOWN OUT TO INSPECT IT AND VERIFY THAT PRODUCTION HAS BEGUN. OSSIP ESTIMATES THAT ABOUT ONE MONTH AFTER LINE STARTED, FIRST PRODUCTION MODELS SHOULD START ROLLING OFF LINE. BASED ON PRODUCTION SCHEDULE OF 25 PER MONTH, MR. OSSIP ESTIMATES THAT WITHIN ABOUT FOUR MONTHS FROM NOW, INITIAL DELIVERY OF 53 ENGINES WILL ALL BE INSTALLED IN TRACTORS. MR. OSSIP STATED THAT IN VIEW OF LEAD TIME REQUIRED BY TELEDYNE AND LENGTH OF TIME NECESSARY FOR TRANSPORTATION, IT TAKING FIVE TO SIX MONTHS FROM TIME ORDER PLACED UNTIL DELIVERY AT PLANT IN SOUTH AFRICA. MR. OSSIP IS THEREFORE REQUESTING THAT SECOND LICENSE BE ISSUED SO THAT HE CAN ORDER REMAINING ENGINES QUICKLY TO PRECLUDE ANY ASSEMBLY LINE DOWN TIME DUE TO LACK OF ENGINES.

4. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO BE SATISFIED THAT THIS IS LEGITIMATE OPERATION AND THAT ALL ENGINES WILL BE INSTALLED IN TRACTORS FOR COMMERCIAL USE. WE REALIZE, HOWEVER, THAT CONDITIONS OF FIRST LICENSE, PER PARA 2 OF REFTL (B), HAVE NOT BEEN FULLY MET AS YET. IN ORDER TO ALLOW VETSAK TIME TO BRING ASSEMBLY INTO OPERATION, TO GIVE METPRO TIME TO COMPLETE REMAINING TWO PROTOTYPES AND TO PRECLUDE FUTURE ASSEMBLY LINE STOPPAGE DUE TO LACK OF ENGINES, SUGGEST INTERIM LICENSE FOR THE FIRST 50 ENGINES UNDER THE SECOND LISCENSE BE ISSUED TO CARRY VETSAK THROUGH TIME BETWEEN ISSUANCE OF SECOND LICENSE, BASED ON FULFILLMENT OF FIRST LICENSE CONDITIONS, AND ARRIVAL OF ENGINES UNDER THAT LICENSE.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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